

Remarks

The amendments are made to define the invention even more particularly. The basis for the amendments are found in the application as filed. The basis for the amendments to claim 33 are found in the claim itself as filed and on page 99 in lines 30-32 and page 104 in line 24. The basis for the amendments to claims 34-50 are found in the claims themselves and in Figure 31. Some of the amendments also are to improve grammar. Claims 40-76 claim numbering has been changed as requested and to correct an inadvertent labeling of two claims with the number 39.

The basis for the new claims are found in the application as filed. Basis for claims 77, 81, and 84 are found on page 107 in lines 30-34. Basis for claims 78, 80, 82, 85, 87, 89, 91, 95, 97, 99, 102, 105, 108, 111, 113, and 115 are found on page 156 in lines 25-31. Basis for claim 79 is found on page 107 in lines 30-34, page 81 in lines 15-16, and page 167 in lines 1-5 & 154 in lines 19-21. Basis for claim 83, 88 and 90 are found on page 107 in lines 30-34 and page 81 in lines 15-16. Basis for claim 86 is found on page 107 in lines 30-34 and page 167 in lines 1-5 & 154 in lines 19-21. Basis for claims 92, 93 and 98 are found on page 172 in lines 8-14, page 63 in lines 20-21, and page 107 in lines 30-34. Basis for claim 94 is found on page 172 in lines 20-21. Basis for claim 96 is found on page 63 in lines 20-21, page 107 in lines 30-34, and page 167 in lines 1-5 & 154 in lines 19-21. Basis for claims 106, 109, and 120 are found on page 102 in lines 3-4. Basis for claim 101 is found on page 172 in lines 26-27, page 63 in lines 20-21, and page 107 in lines 30-34. Basis for claim 104 is found on page 63 in lines 20-21 and page 107 in lines 30-34. Basis for claims 106 and 109 are found on page 102 in lines 3-4. Basis for claim 107 is found on page 63 in lines 20-21, page 107 in lines 30-34, and page 167 in lines 1-5 & 154 in lines 19-21. Basis for claim 110 is found on page 63 in lines 20-21, page 81 in lines 15-16, and page 16 in lines 15-16. Basis for claim 112 is found on page 107 in lines 30-34 and page 16 in lines 15-16. Basis for claim 114 is found on page 63 in lines 20-21, page 81 in lines 15-16, page 16 in lines 15-16, and page 107 in lines 30-34. Basis for claims 100, 103, 116, and 117 are found on page 154 in lines 30-34 and page 155 in lines 1-6. Basis for claim 118 is found on page 155 in lines 5-6. Basis for claim 119 is found on page 16 in lines 16-17.

Applicant has canceled claims solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution on merits of the presented claims. Applicant cancels claims without prejudice. Applicant expressly retains all rights to present canceled claims along with any other disclosed embodiments for appropriate future prosecution as illustrated by continuing applications and continuation in part applications. Canceled claims include 1-18, 23, 27-32, 39-40, 56-61, 63-67, 69-74, and 76.

Applicant has withdrawn claims solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution on merits of the instantly presented claims. Applicant withdraws claims without prejudice. Applicant expressly retains all rights to present withdrawn claims along with any other disclosed embodiments for appropriate future prosecution as illustrated by continuing applications and continuation in part applications.

Election/restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121

The Office Action mailed on March 14, 2007 included a request for restriction to one of the following invention groups:

- I. Claims 1-21
- II. Claims 22-23
- III. Claims 27-32
- IV. Claims 33-50 – drawn to semiconductor processing, classified in class 438, subclass S
- V. Claims 51-54
- VI. Claims 55-60
- VII. Claims 61-66
- VIII. Claims 67-75

Applicant requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement because searching of the different invention groups may not be burdensome.

If the restriction requirement is maintained, applicant elects invention Group IV (claims 33-38, 41-50) for prosecution on merits. New claims 76-120 depend from independent claim 33 and thus are respectfully believed to belong to invention Group IV. Thus elected invention Group IV claims are respectfully believed to include claims 33-38, 41-50 and new claims 76-120 for prosecution on merits.

Applicant further respectfully requests notification of the invention Group claims 24 to 26 belong to.

Conclusion

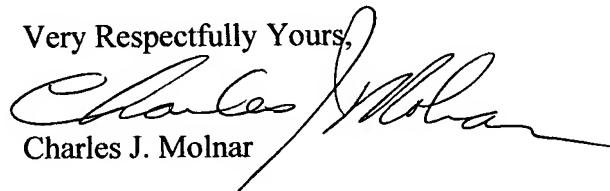
Applicant elects invention Group IV for prosecution on merits if the restriction is maintained. Class IV claims are respectfully believed to include claims 33-38, 41-50, and new claims 76-120.

A completed Patent Application Fee Determination Record is attached for the new claims. No additional fees are believed to be due.

A Certificate of Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 (Form PTO/SB/92) is also enclosed.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Very Respectfully Yours,



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